Data:

We now have **263** high schools and ATCs registered for Imagine Academy in Kentucky!

Make sure you are also a testing site with Certiport so your students can certify!

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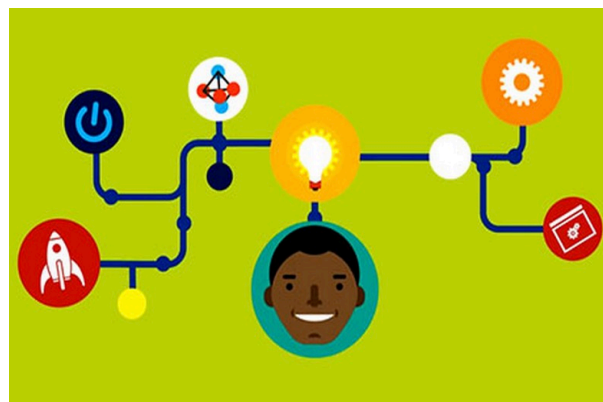ann.schreck@pearson.com

The 2016 MOS U.S. National Championship

The Microsoft Office Specialist U.S. National Championship presented by Certiport, Inc. is a competition that tests students' skills on Microsoft Office Excel®, Word and PowerPoint® (2010 or 2013). Top students will be invited to represent Kentucky at the event in Orlando, Fla., this month. When you take an exam in Excel, Word, or PowerPoint (2010 or 2013), you will automatically be entered to qualify and compete! Kentucky's spring qualifiers are:

Excel 2013: Montgomery County ATC
Word 2013: Montgomery County ATC
PowerPoint 2013: Montgomery County ATC
Excel 2010: Walton-Verona High School
Word 2010: Walton-Verona High School
PowerPoint 2010: Mason County High School

(Student names to be announced soon once release forms are completed.)

Imagine Academy Best Practices Training

You are invited to attend a face-to-face training on **best practices** with the use of the curriculum and resources inside your **Imagine Academy** account. This is designed specifically for all educators who will use Imagine Academy in the classroom. The dates and locations are listed below. Please click on the link of the day you will attend and register today. **The training is FREE but the seating is limited so don't delay on registering!**

Objectives:

* Ability to navigate the Imagine Academy website and access the wide variety of resources through hands-on computer lab exploration. (The majority of the time will be hands-on.)

* Understand how to implement Imagine Academy curriculum into your course(s) by learning how other teachers use it in their classrooms.

* Collaborate with peers to develop a plan for Imagine Academy implementation through group discussion.

* Understand how to navigate your Certiport account to certify students and faculty/staff.

What to Bring:

* A hard-wired device will be provided but you are welcome to bring a portable device with an updated version of Internet Explorer and/or Firefox.

* Your Imagine Academy Member ID and Program Key (email me if you need this information)

* There is no charge for the training -- that's right -- it's free! However, any travel, lodging, and meals associated with the training are up to you and your school.

Click on one of the following links to register today before they fill up!

August 1st, Hardin County's Early College Career Center, Elizabethtown 8:30am-2:00pm (eastern)

August 2nd, Warren Central High School, Bowling Green, 8:30am-2:00pm (central)

August 3rd, Pulaski County High School, Somerset, 8:30am-2:00pm (eastern)

August 4th, Allen Central Middle School, Floyd County, 8:30am-2:00pm (eastern)

August 5th, Clark Co. High School/ATC, Winchester 8:30am-2:00pm (eastern)

Productivity
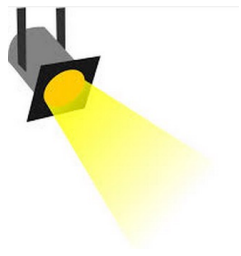Microsoft Office and productivity software, tools and services

IT Infrastructure
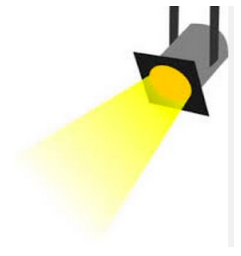IT concepts including cloud, clients, devices, databases and O365

Computer Science
Programming concepts and application development

Spotlight:

Hart County High School

Story by Deanna Vance, Hart County High teacher

What an exciting first year we've had growing and learning in the Microsoft Imagine Academy at Hart County High School! This amazing opportunity has afforded our students a dynamic skill set and certifications that give them a significant advantage over their peers as they enter the workplace or transition to college. Because of this initiative, 69 of our students now hold a professional certification in one or more Microsoft Office programs! We awarded a combined total of 172 certifications in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; of those, 78 percent of tested students passed at least one exam and 54 percent passed all three exams! Additionally, we had one student who completed a self-study unit in MTA and successfully achieved certification in Software Development Fundamentals.

When we began our journey at the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, Hart County High School was already a Certiport Testing Center, so were able to implement the testing process easily. A variety of materials were utilized to ensure success in the classroom, including those resources available to our school through the Imagine Academy. The Microsoft MOAC eBooks are extremely helpful to students, because they always have a resource guide at their fingertips. Additionally, students were assigned the learning modules before new material was covered and this "pre-learning" gave students an increased comfort level as concepts were taught in class. They asked higher level questions and applied their learning to assignments with ease. Most students have some familiarity with Word and PowerPoint, so therefore, we start with Excel and 40 percent of our semester is dedicated to learning this application alone.

We celebrate the successes of our students by posting their certificates in our hallway. When a "blue ribbon" goes up over the top of their certificates, it means that the student has achieved certification in all areas. My advice to anyone who feels that they are not seeing the success that they had hoped for is: *Become certified in all areas yourself. Ask your students what they need to help them learn better. If a student receives extended time for testing through an IEP, request this accommodation for the student through Certiport. Find student projects that make learning the applications fun!*

Here's what Hart County High School's students are saying:

"…Very challenging but worth it at the end of the day because my certifications will help me with job opportunities and college projects." – Jacob Lobb, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint 2013 Certifications.

"I really like to code, so much so that I would love to have it as my job at some point. The opportunity to obtain a Microsoft certificate will greatly improve my chances of getting a job in software engineering." –Draven Lewis, MTA 361 Certification

"Excel was the most challenging exam, but will be the most helpful for future opportunities in any business setting." – Rebecca Wooten, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint 2013 Certifications.

Data Points for May:

The number of schools signed up for membership: 263

The number of registered testing centers: 248

The number of Excel certifications for the month: 478

The number of Excel certification year-to-date: 2,091

The number of MTA certifications for the month: 65

The number of MTA certifications year-to-date: 230

The number of online courses started: 44,471

The number of online courses completed: 28,951

The top 10 certifying sites:

1. Clark County ATC	6. Fern Creek High, Jefferson County
2. Dixie Heights High, Kenton County	7. Bullitt East High, Bullitt County
3. Simon Kenton High, Kenton County	8. Paducah Tilghman High
4. Larry Ryle High, Boone County	9. Breckinridge County ATC
5. Franklin Simpson High	10. Mayfield/Graves County ATC

Is your school listed here?

MOS Master Certifications

School	Name	School	Name
Marion County High	Dylan Tungate	Livingston Central High School	Kaylin Travis
Dixie Heights High	Michael Smeltzer	Dixie Heights High School	Matthew Sims
Pulaski County High	Mike Crowhurst	Dixie Heights High School	Spencer Wynn
Simon Kenton High	Katelyn Taylor	Dixie Heights High School	Alaina Moore
Simon Kenton High	Christopher Welch	Russell ATC	Dennis Stephens
Simon Kenton High	Kathryn Johnson	Simon Kenton High	Alyssa Armes
Simon Kenton High	Johnathan Hawkins	Simon Kenton High	Andrew Stevens
Montgomery County ATC	Greyson Cox	North Bullitt High	Rhyne Newton
Simon Kenton High	James Kreidenweis	Pendleton County High	Molly Burgemeir
Beechwood High School	Logan Hamm	Clinton County ATC	Frank Zheng
Dixie Heights High School	Miles Spurlock	Russellville ATC	Melissa Powers
Dixie Heights High School	James Fussinger	Russellville ATC	Melissa Jones
Dixie Heights High School	Andrew Perry		